

**MINUTES OF THE
HOLLADAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 11, 2009
Council Chambers
4580 S 2300 E
Holladay, Utah 84117**

Council Meeting – 6:00pm

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Dennis Webb
Grant Orton
Lynn Pace - *excused*
Patricia Pignanelli
J. James Palmer, Jr.
Barry Topham

City Staff

Randy Fitts, City Manager
Stephanie Carlson, City Recorder
Craig Hall, City Attorney

Citizens: Joan Owen, Sherry Hanson, Richard Pollei, Carol Moss, David Chisholm, Amjid Afridi, Jo & Devel Gedge, Lorianne , Bill Apgood, Alisa & Steve Parks, Paul & Anne Fetzer, Sharron & Rob Horsey, Omar Leeman, Clark Larsen, Tom Breitling, Jerry Williams, Dick Gaddis, Jack Gifford, Fred Murphy, John Peppinger, Vernon & Florence Stevenson, Welden Anderson, Ric Horgan, Paul Gedge, Brent Cottle, Don Jacobson, Gwen Saunders, Sophia Pitakis, Pam Clark, Becky Stratton, Bill Lang, Frank & Diane Moffat, Bruce & Jill Dalebout, Arch Frantz, Diane Simons, Mark Lewon, Don & LaVelle Fagg, Gary Thompson

I. *Welcome*

Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm and welcomed those in attendance.

II. *Pledge of Allegiance*

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Apgood.

III. *Public Comments*

There were none.

IV. *Public Hearing on Proposals for Police Services*

Mayor Webb provided some background on this issue for the citizens. Several years ago, then Sheriff Kennard, invited several cities to participate in discussion regarding a reorganization of the Sheriff's department. This group met for two years and it was intended that a new organization might be created which would allow more input to police services and more local control. With the election of Sheriff Winder, those discussions terminated and new discussions ensued and other proposals were put on the table and in fact legislation was enacted that gave authority to the Sheriff to move forward with reorganization and a new organization of the Sheriff's department. As a result of all those efforts, the Sheriff's department as we currently know and have contracted with in the past will cease to exist in its current form. The City had to look at options: One is the UPD – a new organization comprised of Bluffdale, Herriman, Riverton, Holladay and the unincorporated County. There would be a governing Board of

Directors (elected officials) who would direct police services. Another proposal was to create our own department, but the costs (around \$5 million) and funding was not a viable option. The third option was to contract with different municipalities. We talked to Murray, South Salt Lake and Cottonwood Heights to see if there was any interest and Cottonwood Heights was the only one to show interest and make a proposal. The citizens need to understand that the current County model as we now know it will no longer exist after a few more months. So we have a choice to either go with the new organization, the UPD or contract with Cottonwood Heights. The City spends \$3.2 million a year for police services and it is a serious issue and we want to make the best decision for our citizens. Our goal is to provide our citizens with the highest quality of service at the most reasonable, effective cost. The Council would like to get citizen input regarding this issue and we are here to listen to you.

The Mayor took questions from the audience on what has been said. The cost comparisons are the same \$3.2 from the County and Cottonwood Heights, which is what we are currently paying. The new budget under the UPD model will not increase more than 5% in the next year's budget. There will still be an elected Sheriff under State statute, but he would report to the UPD Board which would be formed by an interlocal agreement. The Board would have budget and policy authority. The Sheriff could veto any action but the Board could override the veto with a 2/3rds vote. The lengths of the contracts are three years with the UPD and five years with Cottonwood Heights. The start up costs associated with Cottonwood Heights would be funded by them. If we choose to go with Cottonwood Heights the chain of command would be one Captain who would coordinate and a Lt assigned to Holladay with the Mayors and Managers meeting as a committee.

A question that arose was the issue with the police records and the different systems used by the agencies (Spillman vs. Versaterra). Holladay would have access to all the records. Another question was response time and what happens to the officers currently in Holladay. Holladay City Hall would house a precinct with either choice as we do now, so officers would respond from this area. The Mayor was unsure of the exact response time and the officer issue has not been discussed. The citizens would like more information and financial statements in order to compare apples to apples. They feel there are a lot of unanswered questions: cost analysis, response time, records, officers, etc.

Council Member Topham stated his brother is the attorney for Cottonwood Heights and a Holladay resident. He has submitted a letter of disclosure and sees no conflict of interest.

Mayor Webb opened the public hearing at 6:33pm

Steve Parks – 4940 Sommet Dr. He expressed concern with the comparisons and lack of analysis. According to the Tribune – these are two very different choices with substantial gaps in service between the two. There are substantial differences in extent of protective coverage, investigative services, crime lab, dispatching, etc. The city needs to have a professional evaluation of the alternatives and compare services and costs.

Vicki Madsen – 2424 E Murray Holladay Rd. She shared her first hand experience with the Sheriff's department during her father's emergency. Their response was immediate and the officers were very sensitive to the family and the situation. They are efficient and professional and the citizens of Holladay deserve the expertise of the Sheriff's department.

Sherry Hanson – 2220 E 4800 S, #411. She supports the county. The officers now know the residents and are part of the community. They are a great asset. It is really necessary to change something that already works?

Lorianne Bisping – 220 Murray Holladay Rd #58. The Sheriff provides a great service to Holladay. She expressed concern about the newness of Cottonwood Heights.

Paul Fetzer – 4802 Crestview Dr & representing Oliver Acres. Our neighborhood wants the comprehensive services and expertise we have come to expect from the Sheriff's office and soon to be UPD. We need the services of well seasoned professionals. Right now there are 25 officers assigned to Holladay, why choose less?

Richard Pollei – 4262 Rowland Dr. The Sheriff's department response is timely and professional. They have responded a number of times to my neighbor's alarm. They are doing a great job of servicing the community.

Anne Fetzer – 4802 Crestview Dr. She has served five years on the neighborhood crime watch for her area and has had an opportunity to work with the deputies. The community needs the opportunity to compare "apples to apples". She has not seen a due diligence from the city in having this information available. She is strongly opposed to changing.

Vern Stevenson – 4328 Holladay Blvd. The Sheriff's department meets or exceeds our level of service. If isn't broke, don't fix it. The Sheriff is a symbol of law enforcement and they provide a sense of safety and security.

Don Jacobson – 1436 Southmoor Dr. He is a retired County officer who served 15 years. He asked the Council to base their decision on service. Cottonwood Heights cannot match the Sheriff in training, crime lab and SWAT. The Sheriff's dept. buys new cars every year and the old cars get sold to other agencies in the area. He worked with both Chris Bertram and Robby Russo and Chris is one of the best officers around.

Jerry Williams – 3954 Alberly Way. Again, if it isn't broke don't fix it. He has lived here for 25 years. He had a drug house two doors down from him and within four months the area was cleaned up. The officers were caring about him and his plight. They went above and beyond the call of duty in communicating with him and solving the problem.

Dick Gaddis – 1590 Delaware Ln. He is a 20 year resident of Holladay and feels we should stay with the Sheriff and UPD. He has had the opportunity to work with the Sheriff's dept for over four years on the Citizen Advisory Board. The deputies represent know and represent the city with honor and integrity. We have the cooperation and resources of the entire Salt Lake County Sheriff's office. These officers are dedicated to Holladay City and those they serve and they deserve our support. Cottonwood Heights officers would be concerned with their community and citizens first and then us as an afterthought. He feels the citizens should be allowed to vote on this issue and that Council Member Topham should step aside on this issue due to conflict of interest.

Tom Breitling – 4794 S 2124 E. The service we are getting is fine and we are better off with what we have. They respond quickly and Capt. Bertram is responsible and responds to the citizens.

Clark Larsen – 4565 Clearview St. He served 35 years with various agencies - Salt Lake City, the County and in federal law enforcement. His concern is getting the best police protection possible. The City should stay with the Sheriff/UPD and this Council was elected to decide what is best for the citizens. Contracting with Cottonwood Heights could be compatible but the loyalty will always be to Cottonwood Heights.

Welden Andersen – 2067 E Rainbow Pt Dr. He has lived in Holladay for 20 years and is a member of the Citizen Advisory board as a liaison between the residents and the Sheriff. The citizens he speaks with want professional, experienced officers. The current system in Holladay is just fine. What is the real agenda behind this whole thing? Who is behind the change? With this new contract raise my taxes? Holladay citizens want an experienced, professional available when needed to assist them. They don't care about a logo or any kind of branding; if they are in trouble they want good help. We don't want to be saddled with a start up debt and get fewer services for it. Crimes happen to individuals, not cities. There is a lack of deputy rotation in Cottonwood Heights and it is not a good plan to go with Cottonwood Heights.

Mayor Webb asked all those in attendance how many wanted to stay with the Sheriff's Department. All the residents, except for one, raised their hand to stay as is. Two CHPD officers whose residency is unknown and the CH city manager, who is a Holladay resident (and former Mayor of Holladay) indicated that they wanted to go with CHPD.

Alisa Parks – 4940 Sommet Dr. Every resident needs a good analysis and a chance to hear from us again after reviewing the numbers and information. The citizens of Holladay deserve better and shame on the Council and City Manager for not having all the information available to us.

Liane Stillman – City Manager Cottonwood Heights. The City of Holladay has paid \$25 million in law enforcement since inception and what do you have to show for it? If you contract with Cottonwood Heights whatever you buy you leave with, it is Holladay's. Cottonwood Heights has no debt and no additional taxes. Holladay won't pay rent and any federal grants would come off the contract cost. The start up cost will be defrayed over three years.

Martha Ellis. We are receiving excellent service from the Sheriff's dept. She is impressed with the passion of the citizens here tonight.

Jack Forman. Is this the best time to be making such a major decision with the state of the economy?

Spencer Scott – 2073 Sahara Dr. The assets won't appreciate over time and after five years we will own things that need to be replaced. Cottonwood Heights wants to package and brand Holladay. Look at the long term costs. We are already getting quality service compared to an unknown with Cottonwood Heights. What is Cottonwood Heights getting out of this? Holladay will not get any more local control. Holladay needs to focus on solving the city's real problems, economic development. (*Written Comment forms are attached with the minutes*)

Council Member Pignanelli was excused at 7:30pm. She thanked the citizens for their input.

Omar Leeman – 2501 Valley View Ave. He is impressed with the services we receive from the Sheriff and likes the UPD proposal. What services and programs are we getting from each agency? There needs to be a line by line comparison of those services. There are also issues with the conversion of databases that really need to be looked into.

Mark Lewen – 4000 S 2000 E. People like the service we are currently receiving. He likened this to the school district split discussions – we need to wait.

Sharron Horsey – 3986 El Dorado Dr. She has worked with the Sheriff's Department and Capt. Bertram is the best. Stay with the Sheriff.

Mayor Webb closed the public hearing at 7:40:40pm.

V. *Adjourn to a Work Meeting*

Council Member Palmer moved to adjourn to a work meeting. Council Member Orton seconded the motion. The Council voted in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm

The minutes for the work meeting follow

WORK MEETING – June 11, 2009

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Dennis Webb
Lynn Pace - *excused*
Patricia Pignanelli - *excused*
J. James Palmer
Barry Topham
Grant Orton

City Staff

Randy Fitts, City Manager
Stephanie Carlson, City Recorder
Craig Hall, City Attorney
Clarence Kemp, City Engineer

Mayor Webb convened the Council in a work meeting at 8:04 pm.

Holladay Village

Manager Fitts reported on the progress being made in the Village. The signal has come down and curb and gutter has been poured on the new street (Laney extension) and on the west side of Holladay Blvd. He would like to authorize Harper and other crews to work extra hours in order to get the project done on time. There have been some delays due to weather and the water line along Holladay Blvd being too high that has put the project behind.

2009-10 Budget Discussion.

The Council reviewed the budget for the final time. They noted that the bond money be used only for roads. They also cut Valley TV and put that money into the newsletter. Manager Fitts reported that the liquor store will not open by November so there is a decrease in sales tax.

Calendar & Other Business

The Council reviewed the calendar for the coming month. The decision on police services will need to be done by resolution. The Council asked that all the information and proposals that they have received for police services be put on the web page for the citizens to review.

VI. *Closed Session pursuant to Utah Code Section 52-4-204 & 205 to Discuss Personnel Issues, Potential Litigation and Property Acquisition and Disposition*

Council Member Palmer moved to go into closed session for the purposes of discussing personnel issues, potential litigation and property acquisition. Council Member Topham seconded the motion. The Council voted in the affirmative and the council convened in a closed session at 8:50 pm.

Those in attendance at this Closed Session were: Council Members Palmer, Topham, Orton and Mayor Webb. Also in attendance were: Stephanie Carlson, Craig Hall, Clarence Kemp, and Randy Fitts. Council Members Lynn Pace and Patricia Pignanelli were excused.

Minutes for the closed session were taken and are now on file as a Protected Record.

Council Member Palmer moved to adjourn the closed session and reconvene the work meeting at 8:55pm. Council Member Orton seconded the motion. The Council roll call vote was as follows: Council Members Orton, Palmer, and Topham in favor. The motion to adjourn and reconvene in the work meeting passed by a unanimous vote.

VII. *Adjourn*

There being no further business, Council Member Topham moved to adjourn. Council Member Palmer seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate and complete record of the Holladay City Council meeting held Thursday June 4, 2009.

Stephanie N. Carlson, CMC
Holladay City Recorder

Dennis R. Webb, Mayor

Minutes approved: 7-2-09